51385-1-P

MARCH 1990

(For Fiscal Year July 1989 through June 1990)
DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES
**PUBLIC ASSISTANCE GRANTS - STATISTICAL REPORT**

Prepared by
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35-01-40-90-06-01

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - STATE FUNDS

Fiscal Year 1990 - 75% Of The Year

March 1990

| CATEGORY | AVAILABLE FOR YEAR | DISBURSED/ ENCUMBERED | UNENCUMBERED BALANCE | DISBURSED FUNDS AS PERCENT OF AVAILABLE FUNDS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| AFDC | $ 12,677,500 | $ 10,015,752 | $ 2,661,748 | 79.0% |
| General Assistance | 1,545,000 | 1,200,138 | 344,862 | 77.7% |
| Emergency Assistance | 217,000 | 162,750 | 54,250 | 75.0% |
| SSI Supplementation | 861,300 | 593,794 | 267,506 | 68.9% |
| TOTAL | $ 15,300,800 | $ 11,972,434 | $ 3,328,366 | 78.2% |

Source: Statement of Appropriations and Account Balances

RAMAC: FY - 1990

## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MONTHLY STATISTICS

| | July 1989 | August | September | October |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| AFDC REGULAR: | | | | |
| Payments | $2,053,761 | $2,100,661 | $2,233,216 | $2,252,541 |
| Cases | 7,305 | 7,535 | 7,635 | 7,822 |
| Children | 12,878 | 13,406 | 13,499 | 13,909 |
| Recipients | 18,796 | 19,488 | 19,629 | 20,293 |
| AFDC-UP: | | | | |
| Payments | $10,815 | $11,796 | $13,305 | $12,250 |
| Cases | 38 | 46 | 45 | 38 |
| Children | 81 | 96 | 97 | 86 |
| Recipients | 144 | 174 | 173 | 147 |
| TOTAL AFDC: | | | | |
| Payments | $2,064,576 | $2,112,457 | $2,246,521 | $2,264,791 |
| Cases | 7,343 | 7,581 | 7,680 | 7,860 |
| Children | 12,959 | 13,502 | 13,596 | 13,995 |
| Recipients | 18,940 | 19,662 | 19,802 | 20,440 |
| GENERAL ASSISTANCE: | | | | |
| Payments | $122,509 | $123,606 | $127,355 | $131,495 |
| Cases | 1,019 | 1,041 | 1,057 | 1,104 |
| Children | 430 | 438 | 556 | 444 |
| Recipients | 1,212 | 1,235 | 1,262 | 1,281 |
| EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE: | | | | |
| Payments | $21,683 | $37,712 | $32,651 | $37,646 |
| Cases | 152 | 254 | 224 | 253 |
| FOOD STAMPS: | | | | |
| Payments | $1,522,688 | $1,547,907 | $1,576,064 | $1,901,307 |
| Cases | 10,904 | 11,217 | 11,208 | 11,204 |
| Recipients | 29,441 | 30,286 | 30,262 | 30,251 |
| SSI STATE SUPPLEMENTATION: | | | | |
| Payments | $58,834 | $59,412 | $58,688 | $58,553 |
| Cases-Recipients | 483 | 488 | 484 | 481 |
| SSI FEDERAL PAYMENTS ONLY: | | | | |
| Payments | $1,572,039 | $1,566,992 | $1,575,071 | $1,582,279 |
| Cases-Recipients | 7,441 | 7,441 | 7,455 | 7,509 |
| TOTAL SSI: | | | | |
| Payments | $1,630,873 | $1,626,404 | $1,633,759 | $1,640,832 |
| Cases-Recipients | 7,543 | 7,544 | 7,559 | 7,611 |

## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MONTHLY STATISTICS

| | November | December | January 1990 | February | March |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AFDC REGULAR: | | | | | |
| Payments | $2,314,831 | $2,325,424 | $2,344,953 | $2,393,000 | $2,372,359 |
| Cases | 7,913 | 7,996 | 8,164 | 8,277 | 8,216 |
| Children | 13,983 | 14,099 | 14,373 | 14,508 | 14,378 |
| Recipients | 20,341 | 20,546 | 20,972 | 21,185 | 21,053 |
| AFDC-UP: | | | | | |
| Payments | $14,237 | $13,979 | $18,079 | $19,022 | $20,475 |
| Cases | 57 | 45 | 55 | 63 | 61 |
| Children | 90 | 97 | 117 | 127 | 131 |
| Recipients | 167 | 174 | 213 | 239 | 241 |
| TOTAL AFDC: | | | | | |
| Payments | $2,329,068 | $2,339,403 | $2,363,032 | $2,412,022 | $2,392,834 |
| Cases | 7,970 | 8,041 | 8,219 | 8,340 | 8,277 |
| Children | 14,073 | 14,196 | 14,490 | 14,635 | 14,509 |
| Recipients | 20,508 | 20,720 | 21,185 | 21,424 | 21,294 |
| GENERAL ASSISTANCE: | | | | | |
| Payments | $134,674 | $141,512 | $142,411 | $146,811 | $137,238 |
| Cases | 1,134 | 1,178 | 1,221 | 1,236 | 1,163 |
| Children | 438 | 457 | 477 | 477 | 435 |
| Recipients | 1,285 | 1,349 | 1,411 | 1,428 | 1,333 |
| EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE: | | | | | |
| Payments | $34,678 | $44,825 | $45,060 | $41,759 | $49,933 |
| Cases | 232 | 292 | 281 | 221 | 278 |
| FOOD STAMPS: | | | | | |
| Payments | $1,938,383 | $2,033,284 | $2,057,056 | $2,100,442 | $2,177,944 |
| Cases | 11,500 | 11,889 | 12,024 | 12,370 | 12,699 |
| Recipients | 31,049 | 32,101 | 32,464 | 33,399 | 34,288 |
| SSI STATE SUPPLEMENTATION: | | | | | |
| Payments | $58,728 | $58,662 | $58,780 | $58,585 | $58,759 |
| Cases-Recipients | 483 | 479 | 479 | 478 | 481 |
| SSI FEDERAL PAYMENTS ONLY: | | | | | |
| Payments | $1,578,398 | $1,580,459 | $1,665,304 | $1,698,321 | $1,674,164 |
| Cases-Recipients | 7,469 | 7,460 | 7,483 | 7,627 | 7,506 |
| TOTAL SSI: | | | | | |
| Payments | $1,637,126 | $1,639,121 | $1,724,084 | $1,756,906 | $1,732,924 |
| Cases-Recipients | 7,573 | 7,565 | 7,588 | 7,729 | 7,611 |

## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CUMULATIVE STATISTICS

| | March 1990 Fiscal Year to Date | March 1989 Fiscal Year to Date | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| **AFDC REGULAR** | | | |
| Payments | $20,390,746 | $18,395,273 | 10.8% |
| Cases | 7,874 | 7,385 | 6.6% |
| Payments/Case | $287.75 | $276.78 | 4.0% |
| Children | 13,893 | 12,974 | 7.1% |
| Recipients | 20,256 | 18,949 | 6.9% |
| Payments/Recipient | $111.85 | $107.87 | 3.7% |
| **AFDC-UP** | | | |
| Payments | $133,958 | $103,450 | 29.5% |
| Cases | 50 | 39 | 28.2% |
| Payments/Case | $299.01 | $294.73 | 1.5% |
| Children | 102 | 89 | 14.6% |
| Recipients | 186 | 155 | 20.0% |
| Payments/Recipient | $80.12 | $74.37 | 7.7% |
| **TOTAL AFDC** | | | |
| Payments | $20,524,704 | $18,498,723 | 11.0% |
| Cases | 7,923 | 7,424 | 6.7% |
| Payments/Case | $287.82 | $276.88 | 4.0% |
| Children | 13,995 | 13,062 | 7.1% |
| Recipients | 20,442 | 19,103 | 7.0% |
| Payments/Recipient | $111.56 | $107.60 | 3.7% |
| **GENERAL ASSISTANCE** | | | |
| Payments | $1,207,611 | $1,191,673 | 1.3% |
| Cases | 1,128 | 1,080 | 4.4% |
| Payments/Case | $118.94 | $122.56 | -3.0% |
| Children | 461 | 473 | -2.5% |
| Recipients | 1,311 | 1,308 | 0.2% |
| Payments/Recipient | $102.37 | $101.25 | 1.1% |

## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CUMULATIVE STATISTICS (Cont'd)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE** | | | |
| Payments | $345,947 | $241,102 | 43.5% |
| Cases | 243 | 182 | 33.5% |
| Payments/Case | $158.18 | $147.28 | 7.4% |
| **FOOD STAMPS** | | | |
| Payments | $16,855,075 | $13,851,126 | 21.7% |
| Cases | 11,668 | 10,842 | 7.6% |
| Payments/Case | $160.50 | $141.94 | 13.1% |
| Recipients | 31,505 | 29,275 | 7.6% |
| Payments/Recipient | $59.44 | $52.57 | 13.1% |
| **SSI STATE SUPPLEMENTATION** | | | |
| Payments | $529,000 | $554,887 | -4.7% |
| Cases-Recipients | 482 | 508 | -5.1% |
| Payments/Case-Recipient | $122.00 | $121.31 | 0.6% |
| **SSI FEDERAL PAYMENTS ONLY** | | | |
| Payments | $14,493,028 | $13,934,592 | 4.0% |
| Cases-Recipients | 7,488 | 7,504 | -0.2% |
| Payments/Case-Recipient | $215.06 | $206.33 | 4.2% |
| **TOTAL SSI** | | | |
| Payments | $15,022,028 | $14,489,479 | 3.7% |
| Cases-Recipients | 7,591 | 7,613 | -0.3% |
| Payments/Case-Recipient | $219.87 | $211.48 | 4.0% |

NOTE: All cumulative statistics other than expenditures represent monthly averages

## COMPARATIVE CASE LOADS BY CATEGORY AND COUNTY

### MARCH 1990

| | | Total State | New Castle | Kent | Sussex |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AFDC Regular: | Cases | 8,216 | 5,530 | 1,400 | 1,286 |
| | Recipients | 21,053 | 13,886 | 3,767 | 3,400 |
| AFDC-UP: | Cases | 61 | 42 | 13 | 6 |
| | Recipients | 241 | 153 | 59 | 29 |
| Total AFDC: | Cases | 8,277 | 5,572 | 1,413 | 1,292 |
| | Recipients | 21,294 | 14,039 | 3,826 | 3,429 |
| General Assistance: | Cases | 1,163 | 851 | 159 | 153 |
| | Recipients | 1,333 | 962 | 188 | 183 |
| Emergency Assistance: | Cases | 278 | 164 | 51 | 63 |
| Food Stamps: | Cases | 12,699 | 7,462 | 2,691 | 2,546 |
| | Recipients | 34,288 | 20,147 | 7,265 | 6,876 |
| SSI State Supplementation: | Cases-Recipients | 481 | 242 | 73 | 166 |
| SSI Federal Payments: | Cases-Recipients | 7,506 | 3,976 | 1,618 | 1,912 |
| Total SSI: | Cases-Recipients | 7,611 | 4,033 | 1,632 | 1,946 |

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**DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**
DIVISION OF PLANNING, RESEARCH & EVALUATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Distribution

VIA: Linda Barnett

FROM: Paula Jones

DATE: June 11, 1990

RE: Highlights of Statistical Report on Public Assistance Grants Programs: July - March 1990

## TOTAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE EXPENDITURES

For the second year in a row, total public assistance expenditures increased during the first nine months of SFY'90 as compared to the previous year. Over $54 million in benefits, including Federal and State funding, was paid to Delaware public assistance recipients during the first nine months of SFY'90. This represents an 11.8% increase (roughly $5.7 million) from the same period in SFY'89.

State government spending, which is associated with all programs except the Food Stamp program, increased at about the same rate: 11.5% or $1.2 million.State spending in this reporting period amounted to roughly $12 million or 78.2% of the annual State appropriation for the four State-funded public assistance programs.

The increase in total State spending is largely attributable to AFDC spending, which exceeded budgeted amounts for the first three quarters of SFY'90 by more than $500,000.

## AFDC PROGRAM

In the first nine months of SFY'90, the upswing in AFDC participation continued but at a more significant rate than reported for the first six months of SFY'90. Specifically, the average monthly AFDC caseload increased 6.7% in comparison with



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the first nine months of SFY 1989, reaching the level of 7,923 cases. This caseload increase was accompanied by a 7% increase in the average monthly number of recipients, which brought the recipient count up to 20,442.

Figure 1 illustrates this increase in AFDC participation after four consecutive decreases in past years.

In addition, analysis of monthly data for this fiscal year through April 1990 indicates that there were continuous monthly increases until March 1990. In March, there was a decline from the prior month partly because of the processing of a backlog of check cancellations in this month. Figure 3 illustrates the month-to-month increases through April 1990 when the caseload equalled 8,347 (with 21,362 recipients.)

Caseload increases are not unique to Delaware. Federal analysts have reported that AFDC caseloads increased 3.9% between the first six months of FFY'89 and FFY'90. (Delaware's caseload increased 9.4% during this period.) Consecutive increases over the past ten months have been associated with increases in national caseloads also.

During the first nine months of SFY'90, there was a 4% increase in the average monthly payment per case (along with a 3.7% increase in the average monthly payment per recipient). This increase in payments can be explained by a 4% increase in the AFDC standard of need that affected the first three months of SFY'90 but not SFY'89 and another 7% increase in October 1989, with the latter being applicable to one and two-person households only.

Total AFDC expenditures for this reporting period - roughly $20.5 million - reflect an 11% increase over spending for the same period in SFY'89. While AFDC expenditures for this reporting period first exhibited an increase in SFY'89, this current increase is much more significant than that exhibited in SFY'89: 2.1%. AFDC spending has not been at this level since SFY 1985. (See Figure 2.)

## GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

As illustrated in Figure 4, General Assistance participation for the first nine months has increased for the first time since SFY 1986. That is, there was a 4.4% increase in the General Assistance caseload between the first nine months of SFY'89 and SFY'90. In addition, the average monthly number of GA recipients increased by a negligible amount: .2%. Moreover, the General Assistance caseload, like the AFDC caseload, has shown continuous month-to-month increases except in March 1990, when a backlog of cancelled checks was processed.

During this reporting period, there was a 3% reduction in the average payment per case ($118.94). This is related to a 4% drop in the average number of members in a case.

Consistent with caseload increases, General Assistance expenditures have been increasing almost each month, thereby reaching the level of $1,207,611 for the fiscal year-to-date. This total reflects a 1.3% increase ($15,938) in comparison with spending for the same period in SFY'89. In addition, this increase, albeit small, represents the first increase since SFY 1986, as shown in Figure 5.

## EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Emergency Assistance expenditures increased 43.5% in this reporting period after declining 20.4% from SFY'88 to SFY'89 (See Figure 5). This increase reflects a 33.5% increase in the Emergency Assistance caseload and a 7.4% increase in payments per case.

The growth in the Emergency Assistance caseload reflected, in part, greater demands for assistance with utilities and fuel during the winter months. Specifically, the number of cases receiving this type of assistance more than doubled during these months.

## FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

In the Food Stamp program, the trends evident in the first six months of SFY'90 continued except that the rates of change were greater in this reporting period. That is, increases in caseloads and recipients occurred for the second year in a row. During the first nine months of SFY'90, both the average monthly number of cases (11,668) and the average monthly number of recipients (31,505) reflected a 7.6% increase - compared with a 3.2% increase last year and a 5.4% increase in the first six months of this year.

Food Stamp participation statistics for SFY'86 through SFY'90 are presented in Figure 6.

In addition, the average cost per Food Stamp household increased 13.1%, from $141.94 to $160.50, during this period. This increase appears to reflect changes in the financial circumstances of Food Stamp households rather than any new policies on benefit levels or larger case sizes.

The growth in participation in combination with greater per case payments resulted in a 21.7% increase in Food Stamp expenditures, bringing total spending to $16.9 million. This amount represents the highest level of expenditure in the past five years. (See Figure 7.)

## SSI EXPENDITURES

Total SSI spending continued to increase modestly during the first nine months of SFY'90. Total SSI expenditures of $15 million represent a 3.7% increase over spending in the same period in SFY'89. This growth in expenditures resulted from a 4% increase in the average payment per recipient that was offset by a .3% decrease in the average monthly number of recipients.

SSI Federal cases, cases receiving part or all of their benefits from Federal sources, constitute the major component of the SSI program and exhibited changes similar to those mentioned above. The average number of recipients decreased .2%, while average payments per recipient rose 4.2% (reflecting a 4% increase in the Federal Benefit Rate as of January 1989 and a similar increase in January 1990). As a result, total expenditures increased 4% in this reporting period.

The changes in the SSI State Supplementation caseload were more significant than the changes in the SSI Federal component. Specifically, there was a 5.1% decrease in the average monthly number of cases/recipients in this program (482 persons in this period). (See Figure 11.)

On the other hand, the average monthly State payment per recipient increased .6%.

As a result, SSI State Supplementation payments decreased 4.7%, to $529,000, in this reporting period. This represents the first decrease in spending since SFY'86 (Figure 9).

Figure 1

## AFDC Participation

July-March: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

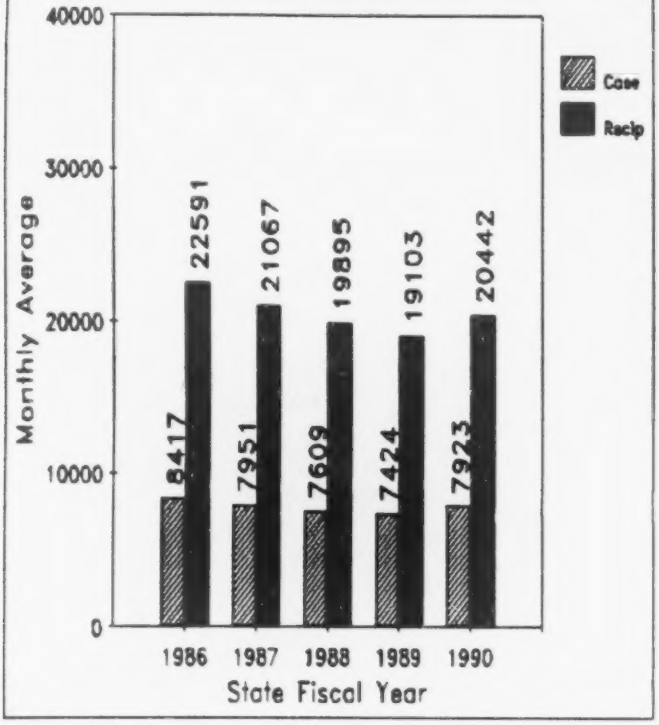


Figure 2

## AFDC Expenditures

July-March: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

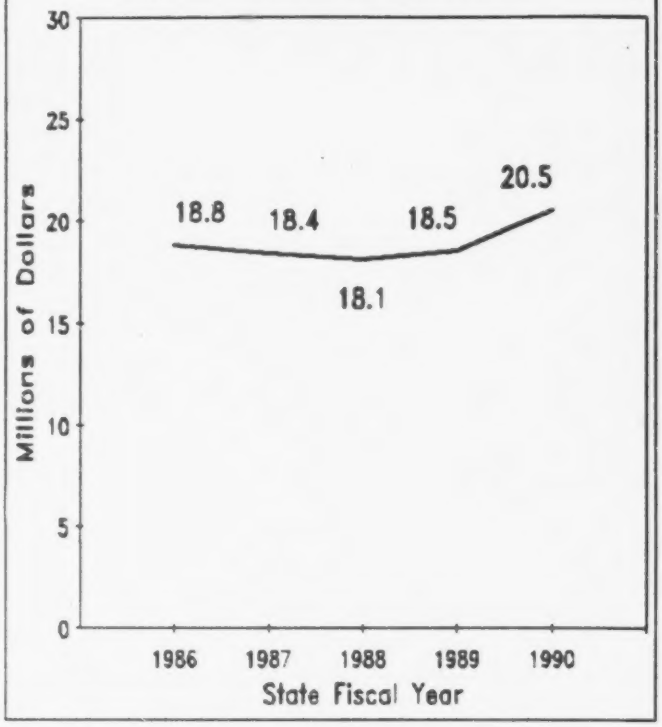


Figure 3

## AFDC Monthly Participation

July 1989 through April 1990

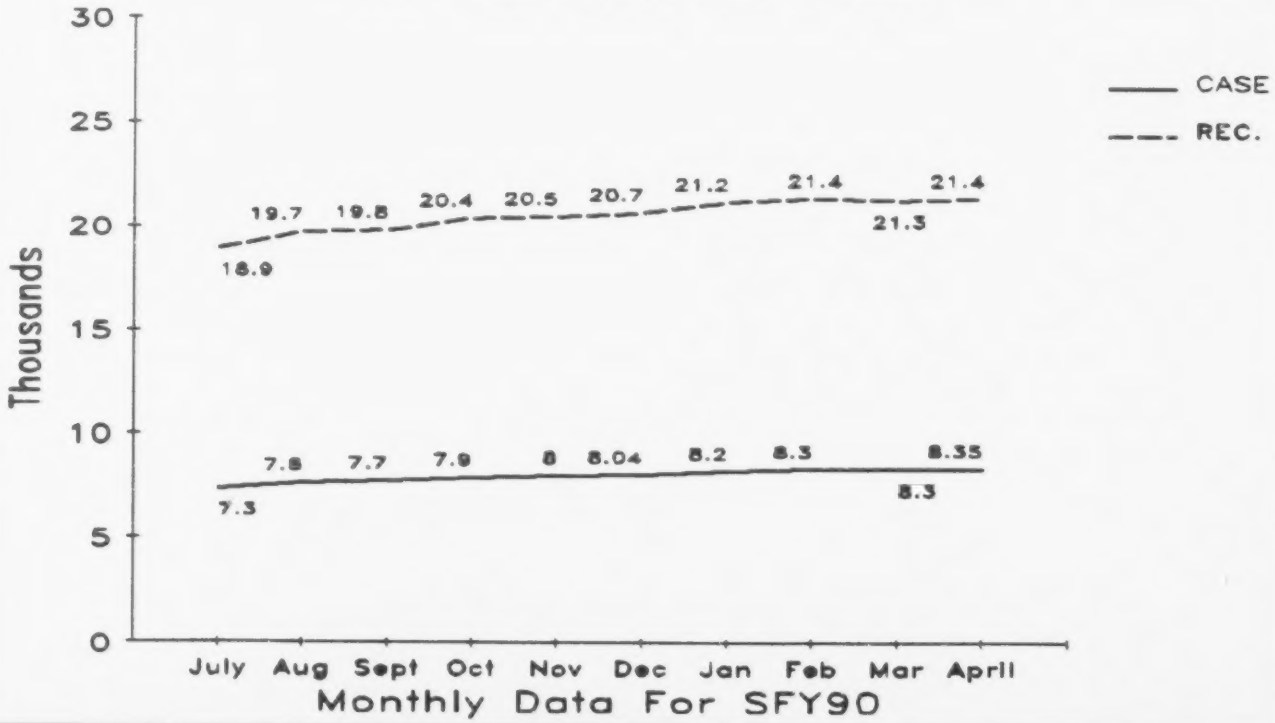

Figure 4

## General Assistance Participation

July-March: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

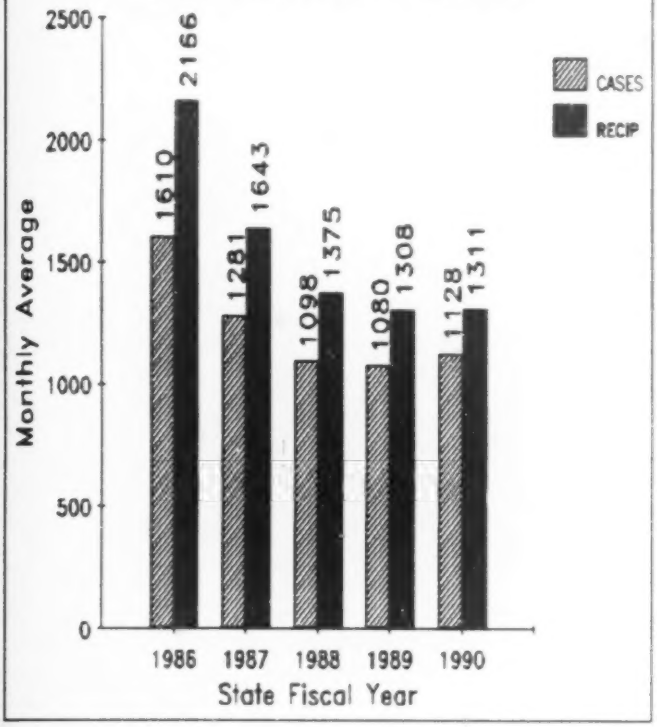


Figure 5

## General Assistance Expenditures

July-March: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

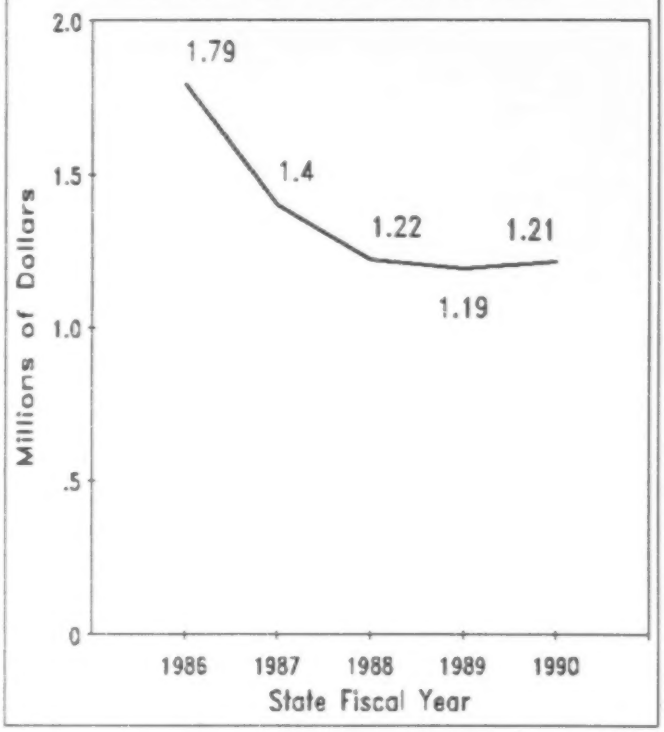


Figure 6

## Food Stamp Participation

July-March: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

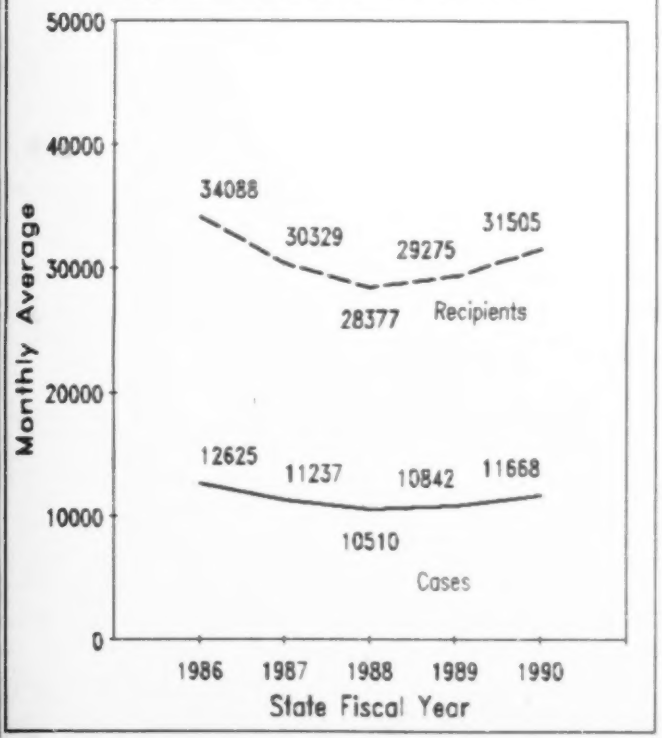


Figure 7

## Food Stamp Expenditures

July-March: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

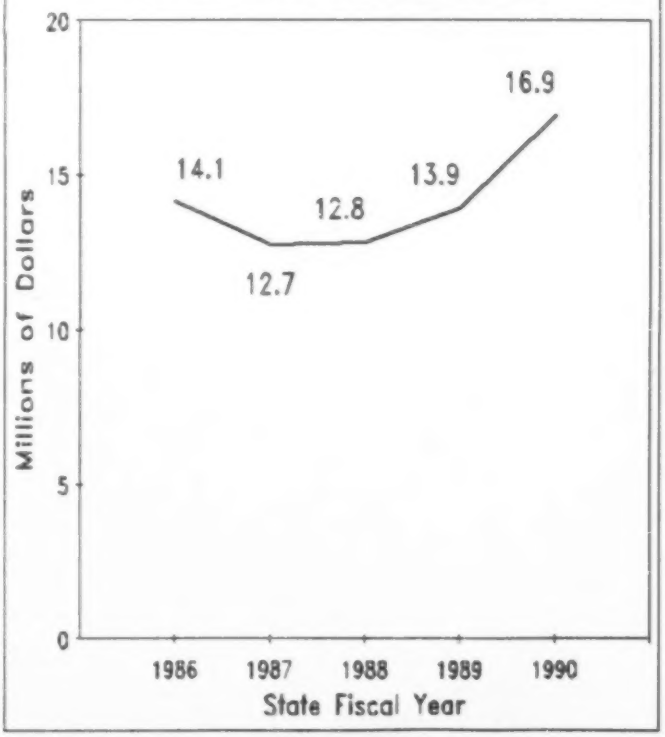

Figure 8

## Emergency Assistance Expenditures

July-March: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

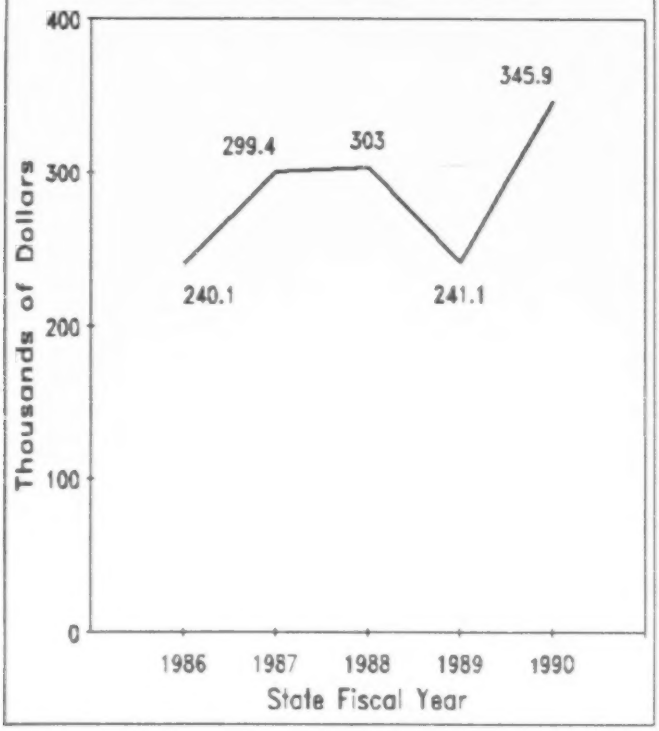


Figure 9

## Emergency Assistance Participation

July-March: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

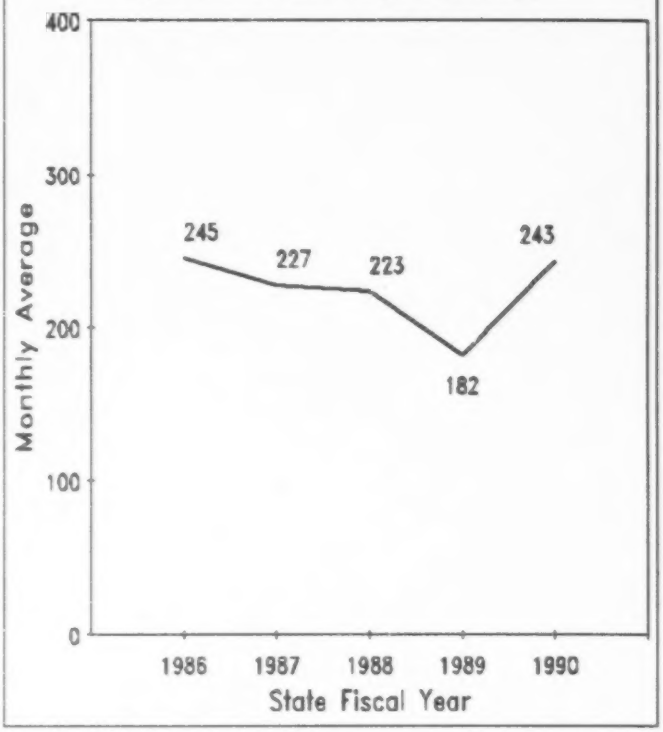


Figure 10

## SSI State Supplementation Expenditures

July-March: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990

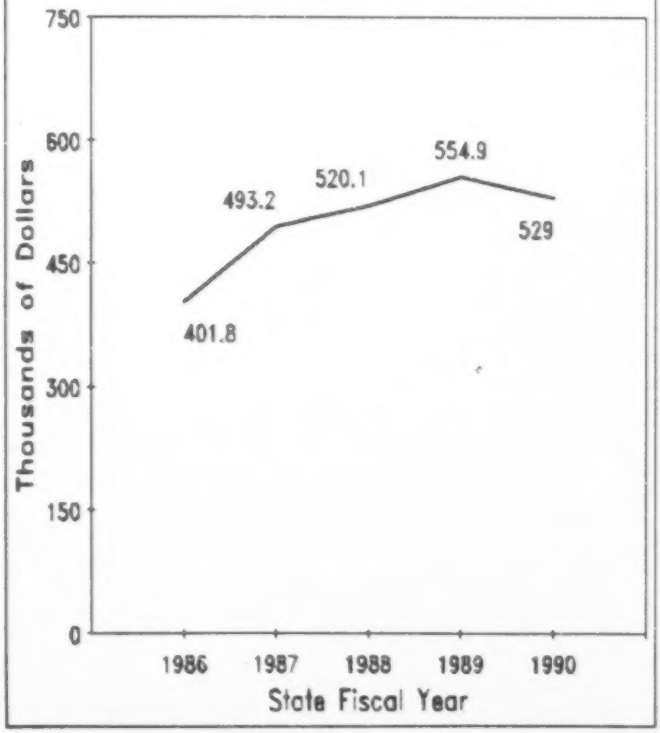


Figure 11

## SSI State Supplementation Cases

July-March: State Fiscal Years 1986-1990